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REPORT

50X1-HUM

CD NO.

COUNTRY Soviet Zone Germany
 SUBJECT Economic - Consumers' goods, fishing
 HOW PUBLISHED Daily and weekly newspapers
 WHERE PUBLISHED Berlin; Chemnitz; Weimar; Buenos Aires
 DATE PUBLISHED 28 Mar - 15 Jun 1950
 LANGUAGE German

DATE OF INFORMATION 1950

DATE DIST. 3 Jul 1950

NO. OF PAGES 3

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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FARMERS TO GET HIGHER PRICES FOR PRODUCTS

LISTS NEW PRICES -- Die Wirtschaft, No 15, 13 Apr 50

The Law for the Improvement of the People's Food Supply and for the Compulsory Delivery of Agricultural Products, of 22 February, orders the Ministry of Finance to raise farm prices for agricultural products. A decree to this effect was issued recently, supplemented by price directives to cover the various products.

As of 1 April 1950, prices for beef cattle, milk, and eggs delivered under the compulsory quota will be raised 10 percent. A similar increase will go into effect on 1 July for oleaginous plants and legumes harvested in 1950.

These price increases are a step toward a standard price level and also an incentive for farmers to increase both the quantity and quality of their production. Although farmers may still sell surpluses above their delivery quotas at higher prices than those specified below, such surpluses will be small unless production is increased, because the delivery quotas have been raised.

Following are the new prices for agricultural products delivered under the compulsory quotas:

Meat Animals

Prices will be uniform throughout the German Democratic Republic and will be free to cattle-collecting stations. The farmer, therefore, must pay the transportation cost to the collecting station. Since this cost factor will vary considerably, depending upon whether or not the farmer lives near the collecting station, transportation adjustment accounts will be established to equalize transportation costs.

Prices (per 100 kilograms live weight): pigs (in the ten pork grades, according to weight and degree of fattening), 133-148 Deutsche marks; yearling heifers (in four grades, A-D), 76-127 Deutsche marks; steers (in four grades), 74-127 Deutsche marks; cows (in four grades), 70-125 Deutsche marks; calves (in

- 1 -

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four grades), 78-125 Deutsche marks; lambs (in three grades, A-C), 85-114 Deutsche marks; sheep (in three grades), 72-95 Deutsche marks; and goats (in three grades), 64-89 Deutsche marks.

Deliveries will be made in the presence of a grading commission, some members of which must be farmers' representatives.

Eggs

The summer price, in force from 23 January to 15 November, will be 10 pfennigs each or 1.72-1.80 Deutsche marks per kilogram for "fresh, unwashed chicken eggs, free to local collecting stations." The winter price will be 12 pfennigs each or 2.07-2.20 Deutsche marks per kilogram.

Milk

As of 1 April, the price free to dairy or milk collecting stations will be 20 pfennigs per kilogram (slightly more than one liter). Prices for butter, cheese, and cottage cheese will be based on the price of milk.

Oleaginous Plants

Prices to go into effect 1 July 1950 (per 1,000 kilograms, free to collecting stations): rape and rapeseed (water content up to 12 percent), 564.55 Deutsche marks; poppyseed (water content up to 9 percent), 1,009.80 Deutsche marks; linseed, 572 Deutsche marks; mustard seed, 563.75 Deutsche marks; sunflower and camelina (water content up to 12 percent), 336.60 Deutsche marks.

Legumes

Green and yellow peas are priced according to quality and size. There are three grades in sizes of 4.5 millimeters and over, priced at 54.45-62.92 Deutsche marks per 100 kilograms. Under 4.5 millimeters the prices are 48.40-56.87 Deutsche marks per 100 kilograms. Prices will be reduced if the water content is over 16 percent.

The maximum price for beans will be 65.34 Deutsche marks per 100 kilograms. Lentils are divided by size into three grades, priced at 65.34-70.18 Deutsche marks per 100 kilograms.

Profit margins have been set for all the products mentioned above, in order to prevent excess charges from being passed on to consumers.

COMPULSORY FRUIT DELIVERY TO CONTINUE -- Argentinisches Tageblatt, No 19,532, 15 Jun 50

Owners and lessees of orchards in East Germany must continue to deliver a large part of their harvest to state collecting points during 1950. Compulsory delivery begins with a planting area of 0.07 hectare, amounting to 30 percent of the fruit harvested. If the planting area is between 1 to 2 hectares, 80 percent must be delivered. If it is over 2 hectares, 90 percent must be delivered.

LISTS FOOD RATIONS FOR APRIL 1950 -- Volksstimme, No 74, 28 Mar 50

Foods obtainable with ration cards in April 1950, according to the Municipal Council for Trades and Supply, are as follows:

- 2 -

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50X1-HUM

1. For Bread Coupons

Bread in the proportion 1 bread unit: 1 coupon unit; wheat rolls for wheat-bread stamps in the proportion 150:100; 660 grams of rye flour for one kilogram of rye-bread stamps; 640 grams of wheat flour for one kilogram of wheat-bread stamps. For April only: special baby cereals, in packages, standard brands, 600 grams for 900 grams of rye-bread stamps.

Noodles and macaroni will be sold only during the first 10-day ration period. Farina and oat cereals are to be used chiefly for children up to 5 years of age. Leguminous products will be supplied in the form of Hungarian beans during the second half of the month.

Proportion of distribution -- Noodles and macaroni with 40-percent flour content, 100:75; rolled oats in new, enriched quality (52 percent), 100:90.

2. For Sugar Coupons

Sugar, sweets, rock candy, and powdered sugar at the ratio of 1:1; processed bakery goods are available on sugar coupons at the ratio of 1:2.

3. For Marmalade Coupons

Marmalade or artificial honey, according to choice. Marmalade stamps will also be good for sugar and sweets, proportion 2:1.

4. For Fat Coupons

Margarine, butter, lard, bacon, tallow, and suet. Butter only, for children up to 5 years of age.

Consumers will be issued margarine during the first 10-day period, butter during the second 10-day period, and other fats during the third 10-day period, proportion 10:8.

5. For Meat Coupons

Meat, sausages, and eggs.

6. For Soap Coupons

All fat consumers above the age of five will be entitled to 50 grams of mersolate soap with a fat content of 60 percent. For children up to five, 50 grams of soap containing 80 percent fat will be issued.

Horse meat on special ration cards -- One-half kilogram of horse meat will be issued against special (tuberculosis) ration cards on Wednesday, 29 March, and Thursday, 30 March.

DISPATCH LUGGER FLEET ON FISHING EXPEDITION -- Die Wirtschaft, No 19, 11 May 50

The first lugger fleet of the German Democratic Republic has embarked on a fishing expedition in the Baltic Sea. Each ship carries 20 men and can hold 4,000 centners of fish.

OPERATE NEW FISH HATCHERIES -- Das Volk, No 90, 18 Apr 50

New fish hatcheries have been set up in Koldenhof near Neustrelitz, Neubrandenburg, Buchholz, and Paulsdamm near Schwerin.

- E N D -

- 3 -

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